# Case 8:10-ml-02151-JVS-FMO Document 5625 Filed 08/15/18 Page 1 of 11 Page ID #:162651

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	John P. Hooper jhooper@kslaw.com KING & SPALDING LLP 1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 Telephone: (212) 556-2220  Counsel for the Toyota Defendants  Elizabeth J. Cabraser (83151) ecabraser@lchb.com LIEFF CABRASER HEIMANN & BERNSTEIN, LLP 275 Battery Street, 29th Floor San Francisco, CA 94111-3339 Telephone: (415) 956-1000	Mark P. Robinson, Jr. (54426) mrobinson@rcrlaw.net Donald H. Slavik dslavik@rcrlaw.net ROBINSON CALCAGNIE ROBINSON SHAPIRO DAVIS, INC. 19 Corporate Plaza Dr. Newport Beach, CA 92660 Telephone: (949) 720-1288  Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel for the Personal Injury/Wrongful Death Cases  W. Daniel Miles, III dee.miles@beasleyallen.com BEASLEY ALLEN CROW METHVIN PORTIS & MILES PC 272 Commerce Street P.O. Box 4160 Montgomery, AL 36103 Telephone: (334) 269-2343  Member of the Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel Committee for the Personal Injury/Wrongful Death Cases
16 17	UNITED STAT	ES DISTRICT COURT
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20	In Re: TOYOTA MOTOR CORP. UNINTENDED	Case No. 08:10-ML-2151 JVS (FMOx)
21	ACCELERATION MARKETING, SALES PRACTICES, AND PRODUCTS LIABILITY	PLAINTIFFS' AND TOYOTA DEFENDANTS' JOINT STATUS
22	LITIGATION	REPORT REGARDING THE INTENSIVE SETTLEMENT
23	This document applies to	PROCESS
<ul><li>24</li><li>25</li></ul>	All Personal Injury, Wrongful Death and Property Damage Cases	Date: Deceber 12, 2018 Time: 8:00 a.m. Dept: Courtroom 10C Judge: Honorable James V. Selna
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Pursuant to the Court's Civil Minutes dated January 14, 2014 (Dkt No. 4504), the Court's Civil Minutes dated April 29, 2014 (Dkt No. 4554), the Court's Civil Minutes dated October 21, 2014 (Dkt No. 4740), the Court's Civil Minutes dated March 17, 2015 (Dkt No. 4933), the Court's Civil Minutes dated July 30, 2015 (Dkt No. 5030), the Court's Civil Minutes dated October 13, 2015 (Dkt No. 5073), the Court's Civil Minutes dated January 12, 2016 (Dkt No. 5112), the Court's Civil Minutes dated April 7, 2016 (Dkt No. 5150), the Court's Civil Minutes dated June 29, 2016 (Dkt No. 5199), the Court's text-only entry dated October 5, 2016 (Dkt No. 5229), the Court's Civil Minutes dated December 6, 2016 (Dkt. No. 5273), the Court's Civil Minutes dated March 7, 2017 (Dkt. No. 5338), the Court's Civil Minutes dated June 13, 2017 (Dkt. No. 5423), the Court's Civil Minutes dated October 11, 2017 (Dkt. No. 5476), the Court's Civil Minutes dated January 17, 2018 (Dkt. No. 5525), the Court's Civil Minutes dated April 25, 2018 (Dkt. No. 5589), the Court's Civil Minutes dated July 31, 2017 (Dkt No. 5621), and in advance of the Court's next Status Conference, which is set for December 12, 2018 at 8:00 a.m., Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel for the Personal Injury/Wrongful Death Cases and members of the Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel Committee for the Personal Injury/Wrongful Death Cases (collectively "Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel") and counsel for Defendants Toyota Motor Corporation and Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. hereby respectfully submit this Joint Status Report Regarding the Intensive Settlement Process (the "ISP"). The ISP is continuing to make good progress as the parties attempt to resolve the various personal injury, wrongful death and/or property damage cases pending before this Court and in other courts.<sup>1</sup>

#### I. <u>Current Settlement Status</u>

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The Court's Order Establishing Intensive Settlement Process ("ISP") and Setting Hearing (Dkt No. 4490) (the "ISP Order") was confirmed and adopted at the hearing held on January 14, 2014 and memorialized in the Court's Civil Minutes – General dated January 14, 2014 (Dkt No. 4504). A similar order was issued by Judge Edmon in Toyota Motor Cases, Joint Council Coordination Proceeding, No. 4261 (Superior Court of Los Angeles County, CA) (the "JCCP Proceeding").

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Toyota is pleased to report that they have resolved, or have agreements in principle to resolve, 514 matters.<sup>2</sup> Of this number, Toyota notes that 178 cases (95%) are/were pending in the MDL (out of 188 total personal injury cases in the MDL) and 92 cases (83%) are/were pending in the JCCP (out of 111 total personal injury cases in the JCCP). According to Toyota, for the remaining 10 cases, or 5%, pending in the MDL, all have requested ISP. Toyota reports that, for the remaining 19 cases, or 17%, pending in the JCCP, only 1 has not yet requested ISP. Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel is contacting counsel in this case to encourage participation in the ISP.

Significantly, there are currently only four<sup>3</sup> MDL cases and one JCCP case that have gone through the entire ISP process that have been certified by the Settlement Special Master as completing the process without resolving. Two other JCCP cases and two other MDL cases that were previously certified out returned to the ISP and subsequently resolved, and one other MDL case has been otherwise dismissed by the Court. Attached as Exhibit A is a chart that provides a greater breakdown by category for the ISP.

Overall and through the efforts of all parties, including, but not limited to, Plaintiffs' Co-Lead and Liaison Counsel, Toyota advises the Court that it has agreements in principle to resolve 244 matters outside of the MDL and JCCP Proceedings.<sup>4</sup>

#### II. **ISP Overview**

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Since the issuance and adoption of the ISP Order,<sup>5</sup> Toyota's counsel have

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All resolved case numbers have now been updated to include those matters that have been voluntarily dismissed or are no longer being pursued by counsel.

<sup>3</sup> This number includes <u>Alvarez-Cabrera</u>, which has since been remanded to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> As of August 1, 2018, plaintiffs in approximately 12 unresolved matters outside of the MDL or JCCP Proceeding have requested to participate in the ISP and a majority of these plaintiffs have already provided records and materials necessary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The court overseeing the Texas state MDL proceeding in In re: Toyota Unintended

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had extensive and intensive negotiations with plaintiffs' firms representing a large number of plaintiffs and claimants. These efforts have included numerous face-to-face meetings with plaintiffs' counsel (including Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel) in cities around the nation. These negotiations continue.

Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel are in regular contact with Counsel for Toyota and have been since the inception of the ISP. Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel encourage plaintiffs' counsel and <u>pro se</u> plaintiffs in all courts to participate in the ISP and assist those counsel and <u>pro se</u> plaintiffs to understand and navigate it. Toyota has provided Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel with various lists of counsel having UA cases throughout the country in order that Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel can identify those counsel and initiate contact with them.

Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel have sent numerous emails and memos following the materials sent by the Special Master, and have calls with counsel in UA cases to discuss their participation in the ISP. Plaintiffs' counsel in UA cases oftentimes contact Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel for procedural guidance on their cases, which is freely given. Due to the open line of communication between the parties, Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel are able to ascertain the status of cases in the ISP for individual counsel. Additionally, access to the electronic depository is given to those counsel with active UA cases, if requested and if the required protective order process is followed.

Plaintiffs' Federal/State Liaison Counsel maintain an extensive database of

Acceleration Litigation, Cause No. 2010-46354 (152nd Judicial District, District Court for Harris County, Texas) (the "Texas MDL Proceeding") has issued its own ISP order. This order, which was issued on February 18, 2014, is substantially similar to the one issued by this Court. The Texas court also appointed Patrick A. Juneau as the Settlement Special Master in that litigation to perform essentially the same tasks there as he performs in this MDL.

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every UA case and counsel's contact information in order to have ready access to any information on the UA case when individual counsel contacts Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel.

Counsel for Toyota has been and will continue to seek the input of Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel and negotiate in good faith with remaining plaintiffs' counsel in attempts to resolve cases both informally/in advance of, and at the ISP settlement conferences and/or mediations. Pursuant to the ISP Order and with Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel and Federal/State Liaison Counsel's assistance, where possible, the ISP settlement conferences are first addressing bellwether plaintiffs, bellwether plaintiffs in the discovery pool and those plaintiffs with exigent circumstances.

#### III. ISP Settlement Conferences and ISP Mediations That Have Occurred

After meeting and conferring with Plaintiffs' Co-Lead Counsel, the parties have so far held forty official ISP settlement conferences and thirty-seven official ISP sets of mediations, in addition to numerous face-to-face informal meetings.

The following ISP settlement conferences have occurred:

- Los Angeles, CA: February 26 and 27, 2014 (22 matters).
- New York, NY: March 17, 2014 (6 matters).
- **Houston, TX:** April 23 and 24, 2014 (23 matters).
- San Francisco, CA: May 1, 2014 (7 matters).
- New Orleans, LA: May 27 and 28, 2014 (7 matters).
- Century City, CA: June 3 and 4, 2014 (10 matters).
- **Providence, RI:** July 15 and 16, 2014 (16 matters).
- New York, NY: August 18, 2014 (21 matters).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The ISP settlement conferences scheduled for March 26, 2014, in Chicago, IL was adjourned due to scheduling changes, with the Settlement Special Master consenting to their cancellation. The mediations scheduled for July 30-31, 2018, in Los Angeles, CA were adjourned with the consent of the Settlement Special Master.

1 **Houston, TX:** September 24, 2014 (7 matters). 2 Los Angeles, CA: October 21, 2014 (7 matters). 3 **Providence, RI:** October 30, 2014 (3 matters). 4 Los Angeles, CA: November 11, 2014 (5 matters). 5 New York, NY: December 5, 2014 (10 matters). 6 **Orlando, Florida:** January 23-24, 2015 (5 matters). 7 **Atlanta, GA:** February 5, 2015 (6 matters). 8 Orange County, CA: March 17, 2015 (3 matters). 9 **New Orleans, LA:** April 28-29, 2015 (7 matters). 10 Los Angeles, CA: May 20, 2015 (8 matters). 11 Century City, CA: June 30, 2015 (6 matters). 12 **Irvine, CA:** July 28-29, 2015 (11 matters). 13 New York, NY: August 31, 2015 (4 matters). 14 Los Angeles, CA: September 15-16, 2015 (10 matters). 15 Orange County, CA: October 13, 2015 (3 matters). 16 New York, NY: November 10, 2015 (3 matters). 17 Fort Lauderdale, FL: December 1, 2015 (2 matters). 18 19 San Francisco, CA: February 19, 2016 (2 matters). 20 **Phoenix, AZ:** March 30, 2016 (3 matters). 21 **Los Angeles, CA:** June 15-17, 2016 (5 matters). 22 Century City, CA: September 21-22, 2016 (3 matters). 23 **New Orleans, LA:** January 9, 2017 (1 matter). 24 **New York, NY:** January 19, 2017 (1 matter). 25 Century City, CA: January 26, 2017 (1 matter). 26 27 New Orleans, LA: March 7, 2017 (5 matters). 28

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In light of the successes and pursuant to Court order, the parties continue to

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The ISP mediation scheduled for November 17, 2016, in Salt Lake City, UT was adjourned due to unexpected matters that the Settlement Special Master had to address in another Multidistrict Litigation.

schedule more ISP settlement conferences and ISP mediations, subject to availability and other issues.

#### IV. Continued Interest in the ISP

In addition to the resolutions as noted above, Plaintiffs' Co-Lead and Liaison Counsel and Toyota continue to be encouraged by the interest and response to date from plaintiffs' counsel in providing materials for cases to participate in the ISP. In addition, the Settlement Special Master's office, Plaintiffs' Co-Lead and Liaison Counsel and counsel for Toyota have received and responded to hundreds of e-mails, telephone calls, and letters regarding the ISP.

The Settlement Special Master and counsel for Toyota are in the process of meeting and conferring with Plaintiffs' Co-Lead and Liaison Counsel regarding upcoming ISPs as well as collecting records in order to begin confidential good faith negotiations. Plaintiffs' Federal/State Liaison Counsel continues to provide information and procedural assistance to those inquiring and interested in ISP participation, and in doing informational outreach to the declining number of those not yet engaged in the process.

Dated:	August 15, 2018	KING & SPALDING LLP
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<b>CERTIFICATE</b>	OF SERVICE
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I hereby certify that I am over the age of 18, not a party to this litigation, and am an employee of King & Spalding LLP, which represents the Toyota Defendants in the above-referenced litigation. I further certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was served upon the attorney of record for each other party through the Court's electronic filing service on August 15, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_Jason Bush Jason Bush